



**REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS  
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS**

**P.O. BOX 1349  
MAJURO, MARSHALL ISLANDS 96960**

January 8, 2002

Mr. Geoffrey Judge  
Deputy Assistant Secretary for  
Planning and Administration  
Office of Environment, Safety and Health  
U.S. Department of Energy  
1000 Independence Avenue, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20585

Dear Deputy Assistant Secretary Judge:

I would like to begin to address the issues you and I agreed to work on in our joint communiqué from last year's annual meeting of the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI). I am particularly interested in convening the working groups to create 5-year strategies for DOE's environmental and medical programs. As part of the 5-year strategic plans, the working groups need to address the issues raised in the communiqué.

I would like us to make preparations for the first meeting of the working group by determining when and where the meeting will take place and what the agenda will be. I would also like to suggest that we meet in Honolulu, Hawaii during the month of February, and before the Fourth Rounds of Compact Re-Negotiations to be held in Majuro.

In addition to beginning work on the issues we identified at last year's annual meeting, we should set a date for our next annual meeting to give people as much advance notice as possible.

I look forward to working closely with you throughout the New Year.

With best regards,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Gerald M. Zackios'.

Gerald M. Zackios  
Minister of Foreign Affairs